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volume four
issue four

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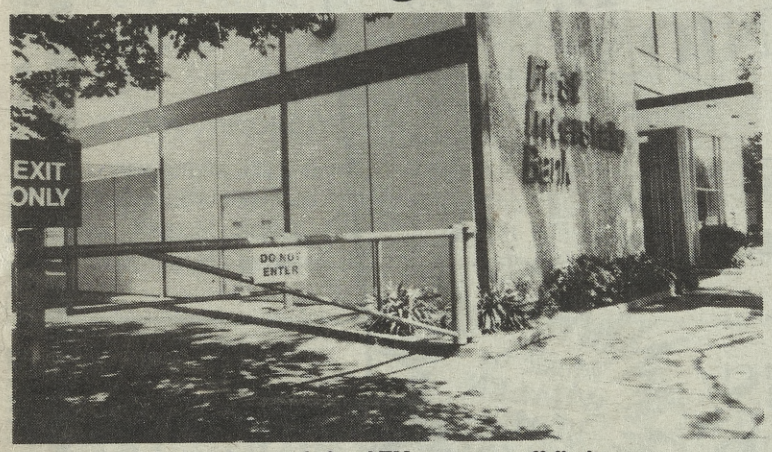
The Rainbow Festival
End of Summer Bash
Labor Day Weekend
See story on page 3



SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Debate Rages about First Interstate Bank Parking Lot

Human Rights Fair Parking Commission Called In



First Interstate parking and the ATM are now off limits.

by **Jim Ralston**

The Sacramento Human Rights and Fair Housing Commission has stepped in to mediate a dispute arising from a complaint filed by the Lambda Community Center and the Fremont Park Neighborhood Association against First Interstate Bank.

The complaint alleges, among other things, that the actions of the bank, located at 21st and K Streets, are discriminatory against gays and lesbians. The bank has installed barriers preventing parking in its lot and use of the automatic teller machine after regular banking hours. The lot is used by patrons of businesses in the area including Faces, the Western, the Mercantile Saloon and the Lambda Community Center.

According to the complaint, closure of the ATM and the parking lot after hours forces patrons of the nearby businesses to park in, and walk from, less safe areas, and discourages their patronage in the area establishments.

Roberta Battles, mediator with the commission, said she is optimistic about the meeting. "The bank has a vested interest, as the community groups do, which is the best situation to have...I'm very positive about this mediation."

Battle said it was unfortunate the bank neglected to involve the community earlier. "Somewhere along the way it would have been great if someone would have come in and talked."

> "It's bad for business. It's like walking past the OK Corral."

Marghe Covino, president of the Lambda Community Center (LCC), and Debra "Red" Barnes, chairperson of the Fremont Park Neighborhood Association (FPNA), agreed. "They could have called all the businesses in the neighborhood and schmoozed us all to death and maybe come up with the same thing, but they've been arrogant in pushing this through," Covino said.

Joe Bradley, manager of the branch, said the barriers were erected as a response to increased crime in the area. "We found a body in the lot, there's been an abduction and rape in the lot, Vinnie Blades was stabbed to death within sight of our parking lot. We've had windows broken and many other non-reportable incidents." he said, such as a recent case of someone walking on the drive- through overhang, cutting him/herself, and left a trail of blood, according to Bradley.

Covino is skeptical of Bradley's claims. She noted that the crimes he referred to happened more than a year ago, and that parking barriers

Continued on page 8

Local Catholics Denounce Statement

by **Steve Bistransky**

Many local Catholic Clergy and their congregations were stunned by a mid-July statement from the Vatican to U.S. Bishops advising "discreet assistance" to those who would promote discrimination against gay people.

Though this is not a new stand for the Church, many had hoped for a softening of the Church's hard line war against homosexual dignity. Instead, it said that the state should restrict the rights of gays as it would all "mentally ill in order to protect the common good."

"Many in the Catholic community are highly offended and incensed by the Vatican

Continued on page 6

Long-Term Survivors Elude AIDS

by **Arturo Jackson III**

An encouraging presentation at the Eighth International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam revealed 36 men in the San Francisco City Clinic Cohort who remain completely healthy after having lived with HIV for more than ten years.



RINK FOTO

Long-term survivors in the Clinic Cohort study from left; Allen, Stephen Pfaydor, Jeff, Gordon Gross, Stan.

The presentation on July 21 was made by Dr. Susan Buchbinder, a cohort researcher, and reported on the "healthy long-term positives" and survival trends garnered among 562 men participating in the study. The San Fran-

Continued on page 10

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AROUND TOWN

Event-Packed Labor Day Weekend:

Rainbow Festival '92 to be the Largest Ever

by **Miles Kerley**

Thousands of men, women and children are expected to attend the 7th annual Rainbow Festival in the heart of Lavender Heights, Labor Day weekend.

Last year, more than 6,000 half naked people swarmed the Rainbow Festival Street Fair from 20th street between K and L. This year, the street fair is expected to extend down 20th from K street to Capitol Avenue.

This year the Rainbow Festival weekend will begin with a kick-off show Thursday, Sept. 3, with emcees Jo Tierney and Empress Stacy at Faces, 2000 K Street.

For the first time ever, a "Rave" Night is the focus of Friday night, with high energy dance and bazaar fashion statements in vogue in the huge tent behind Faces.

The headline entertainer for the 1992 Rainbow Festival is Kym Simms, singer with 2 current top ten hits -- "Too Blind to See it" and "Take My Advice."

This year's Rainbow Festival Street Fair, Sunday, Sept. 6, is offering something for everyone, information on politics and non-profit organizations, vendors offering everything from T-shirts to tatoos -- condoms to concessions, and munchies to music.

"This year we are planning for the Rainbow Festival to be twice as large as it has been in the past. And as usual, everyone is expected to have a great time." said Rainbow Festival organizer Richard Boriolo.



The booths are one of many things to see at the Festival.

This year, as in the past, the hilariously funny comedian Lois Bromfeld is the featured entertainer for Sunday night in the tent. "Be sure to come out and see Lois," said Boriolo, "she's a Rainbow Festival cult heroine, who has been at every Festival, and tickets always sell out early."

The Festival also is the kick-off for the "Mayor of Lavender Heights" campaign where community organizations and individuals compete to raise money for the two charities that benefit by the Festival. This years recipients of the money raised by the Festival and the "Mayor of Lavender Heights" race are the Lambda Community Center and Hope House.

For more information call Richard Boriolo at 441-3973 or write Rainbow Festival, c/o Richard Boriolo, 2000 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Be there or be talked about!

Technicality Keeps Rights Bill Alive

by **Stacy Selmants**

Facing defeat due to the sudden pivotal loss of an Appropriations Committee member's "aye" vote, proponents of Assembly Bill 2601 (Friedman) -- the sequel to last year's AB 101 -- on August 10 bypassed the Senate Appropriations Committee on a technicality.

The vote reversal came from Wilson loyalist, Senator Bob Beverly (R-Manhattan Beach), and was reportedly the result of the arm twisting urging of a uneasy governor who is trying to avoid seeing another gay rights bill on his desk.

The bill which would reinstate nondiscriminatory language regarding sexual orientation in the state Labor Code, is now headed for a full vote on the Senate floor, and the speculation has already begun about whether Governor Wilson will veto it. By killing it in committee, Wilson would have neatly sidestepped the need to take a public stance on the issue of gay rights.

The technicality which saved the bill, (along John Vasconcellos gay rights bill Assembly Bill 3019) is contained in Rule 28.8 which allows that bills which have no fiscal impact can bypass the fiscal committee of each house. Facing likely Appropriations Committee votes that would kill both bills, AB 2061's sponsor, the LIFE AIDS Lobby, asked Senate President Pro Tem David Roberti (D-Los Angeles) to invoke the 28.8 rule, exempting them from a vote from the Committee. This exemption advances both bills to the Senate floor. And, according to Capitol insiders, at press time there are enough votes in the Senate to pass the AB 2061 on to the governor.

Testimony on the bill had

Continued on page 8



ELLIE ZACKS, Ph.D.
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Bank's Gates Not Gay Rights Issue

Editor,

What do the gates at First Interstate Bank have to do with gay rights?

It is a private business with insurance liability issues, parking lot maintenance costs and a desire to not have drunks urinating on the walls outside of their building.

Throwing the "gay rights" issue on this takes away the validity of real gay rights issues like employment and housing.

Sincerely,
James Hawthore

Assemblymember is Concerned

The following letter was sent on August 3 to Joe Bradley, Manager of First Interstate Bank at 21st and K Streets:

Dear Mr. Bradley:

The news of your decision to close the bank's ATM came as a surprise, especially in light of the fact that the ATM had a good safety record. Rumors are circulating that the bank's action may have been discriminatory toward gay residents and patrons of various midtown establishments. I hope those rumors are not accurate.

Certainly ATM crime does not appear to be the reason for the closure. The Sacramento Police Department reports there have been only two armed robberies at ATMs this year, and neither were at your office.

Midtown is a unique neighborhood with shops, sidewalk cafes, coffee houses and attractive Victorians that creates a certain vigor that's appealing and conducive to pedestrian traffic. The foot traffic that would be attributable to the ATM's use is now gone. It makes no sense to me to eliminate services that are designed to bring people out onto the streets when statistics show that increased pedestrian activity usually decreases the likelihood of crime.

I'd like you to seriously consider reopening the ATM, or, at the very least, move it to K Street so that my constituents and your patrons can enjoy the convenience of walking to the bank.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Phillip Isenberg
Assemblyman, Tenth District

Keep Abortion Safe and Legal

Dear Editor,

Planned Parenthood of Sacramento Valley will be ending their signature campaign to "Keep Abortion Safe & Legal" on October 16, 1991. It was on this date in 1916, our founder, Margaret Sanger opened the very first family planning clinic in the Brownsville area of Brooklyn. Although the clinic was opened less that 30 days when Margaret was arrested, indicted and refusing to pay a fine spent 30 days in the Queens County Penitentiary, her heroic efforts and philosophy endure to this day.

It is a conservative estimate that over 200,000 women sacrifice their lives by terminating unwanted pregnancies where abortion is illegal.

With the current political fever of reproductive freedom, we would like to gather 30,000 more signatures by October 16. If any of your readers would like to assist us in our signature gathering efforts, we would welcome anyone interested to stop by any Planned Parenthood office sign our "Keep Abortion Safe & Legal Campaign" pick up blank forms, make copies and help us gather signatures from your friends and family. Now is the time to protect life and dignity for yourself, for you loved ones and for future generations. I would welcome all calls from those committed to protect "freedom of choice."

Dedicated to the tradition of choice, Denise Evangelista
Public Affairs Coordinator
446-5037 x434

Men's Chorus Says Thanks

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Sacramento Men's Chorus, I would like to thank all our supporters for making our GALA IV Raffle a success. SMC raised over $1500 to help us attend the GALA IV Chorus Festival in Denver this past June 26 - July 4. With your generous support we were able to represent Sacramento at this international event.

Our raffle could not have been possible without the generous prize donations from Bob Austin, Tower Records, Strutz Jewelers, The Gifted Gardener, Mixed Bag, Barbetta's Beads, Rob Hunter and Kent Nelson, Pescado's Restaurant, Blue Fish Cove Inn, How Tacky, Moment of Touch and SMC' Entourage. SMC would also like to acknowledge the generous donation of time and materials from Grady's Print Shop, the Wreck Room and Art Farmer Graphic Design.

Again, the Sacramento Men's Chorus thanks you for your continued support and is looking forward to a successful 1992-93 season.

Sincerely, Jim Radke
SMC Raffle Coordinator

An Apology to Barrett F.

To Our Readers,

This letter to our readers is to retract and clear the air in regards to a statement that we printed in our mid-May issue's "Rumor Has It" column.

The statement about "Barrett F." has no factual basis. We have received letters from Barrett F's family and friends attesting that his move from the Sacramento area will be a loss to the community.

We regret that we used the lighthearted section "Rumor Has It" to suggest that his conduct was in any way improper.

To Barrett F., please accept our sincere apology, and best wishes for a happy and successful career in Houston, Texas.

The publisher

No Funding For Entertainment

Dear Editor,

While America is claiming to have such a budget crisis that it cannot pay its state workers, our government is pending millions on entertainment!

For instance, our government spent $25,000 each on the movies "Paris is Burning" and "Poison." $637 million to New York State Art Council which fund the homosexual film company, Women Make Movies Inc. $15,000 to Holly Hughes to make "No Trace of the Blonds," a play about lesbianism, and $12,000 to pay

Continued on page 6



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GAY AND LESBIAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

Veterans' Group Established in Sacramento

by **Danny Szczeblewski**

Dedicated to informing gays and lesbians and enlightening others regarding discrimination against homosexuals in the military, Twin Spirit Veterans Association (TSVA) held their first official meeting in July.

Conceived by Lt. Col. David Eckert (USAF Ret.) and Lynn Strawbridge, (USAF), Twin Spirit has been accepted by MCC as an "Outreach Program" and has been granted a three month, renewable, non-profit status.

The name Twin Spirit comes from Native American Indians who believed that homosexuals had "twin spirits" or "twin souls" that lived within their body, and that such people were to honored and revered.

"Although there were other gay and lesbian veterans' groups around the state," Eckert said, "none were in the capitol where the action is."

"Twin Spirit's first priority is to aid in the change of Department of Defense policy treatment of homosexuals in the military," Eckert explained. "It is very important though that we be here to assist gay and lesbian veterans in dealing with DOD discharge."

"Lastly, we are here as a social function, a 'safe place' to tell stories and release rage if necessary."

"Being a new organization," Eckert stated, "it's future and direction are in the hands of the membership. History has been made by little groups like this."

The next TSVA meeting is planned for Aug. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the MCC grand ballroom, at Broadway and 34th Ave. "You need not be a veteran or even in the military to be a member," Eckert explained. "We are a very 'at home' group."

For more information contact Lynn Strawbridge at 383-0940.



A. C. SANTOS

Lt. Col. David Eckert.

Diversity Coalition Seeks Ordinance

by **Michael Boyd**

A recently formed coalition, The Sacramento Family Diversity Task Force (SFDTF), is working to support an ordinance that would allow registration of relationships in which partners have expressed a mutual obligation for support of common welfare.

One of the goals of the group is to be inclusive and representative of all effected Sacramento communities.

Today's changing family structures rarely reflect the "tradional family" structure. Fewer than thirty percent of American households are made up of a husband, wife, and their common children. Seventy percent of families are either not included in many policies and procedures or are actually excluded from them.

Unmarried couples, gay and straight, are not recognized nor afforded equal protection in law as are married couples.

Many seniors and persons with physical disabilities are finding that they cannot live alone for a variety of reasons and are sharing expenses and living arrangements with a friend. Current Social Security and pension rules could mean termination of benefits to many seniors if they remarry.

Living in extended families is a way of life in many cultures. However, this extended family may not fit into the traditionally defined category and will also be denied certain benefits accorded married couples.

Denied equal benefits and protection, many of these groups are working together to assure that the different family structures are recognized and no longer penalized.

The SFDTF is examining ways to recognize family diversity by:

* Increasing legal recognition.
* Increasing psychological and social sanctioning of relationships.
* Allowing hospital and jail visitation.
* Including partners in protection from domestic violence.
* Including partners in testimonial privileges.
* Including partners in protection from housing discrimination.
* Adding the right to authorize emergency medical care.

Continued on page 20



Jesse Wells
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Come To Our Booth at the Rainbow Festival

LETTERS

continued from page 4

for the 1991 San Francisco International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival.

Even if it is to "promote gay awareness," it's still entertainment!

If our government has money for that, it would be much better spent on helping children, elderly and sick. Funding for entertainment should not come from government money, but private organizations. Besides, don't you want money for AIDS research instead of pornographic movies?

Michelle Kunert

CATHOLIC

continued from page 1

statement..." was Father Barry Brunsman's reaction to the inflammatory statement. Father Barry is pastor of St. Francis church in midtown.

The letter suggests to church officials that they ask themselves whether homosexuals, as mental and moral defectives, are entitled to equal employment and nondiscrimination in housing and urged them to oppose legislation that would guarantee equal rights.

It also said discrimination is not to be considered unjust in military recruitment, the employment of teachers and in child foster-home and adoption.

"Damning in its purpose to condemn gays and lesbians to lives of underprivilege and fear," said another local priest quest anonymity. "To paraphrase Martin Buber (the Jewish philosopher and theologian), you can have power over the incubus by calling it by its name. The name here is homophobia." The priest went on to say that he knew of no other group against which the Vatican has openly encouraged discrimination and its ugly results.

Father Barry was outraged by the Vatican message and insisted that he be identified by name for this article. In a telephone interview Barry remarked that St. Francis parish at Sunday Mass on July 26 had reacted with thunderous applause in rejecting the contents of the letter and its far-reaching and sadder implications.

"The Bishops of California" he said, "have issued a statement to the public contradicting the letter and questioning its purpose and validity."

Father Barry continued, "Informed theologians, psychiatric and psychological researchers and medical experts would unanimously dispute the basic premise of the Vatican letter."

"This is not an infallible statement," Barry said, referring to Papal infallibility. "It is the responsibility of all Catholics, indeed of all good people. . .to follow an informed conscience. When we hear such statements. . .we have the freedom, the responsibility to form our own accountableness."

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SACWN Premiers "Gay Youth"

"Gay Youth," a documentary by film maker Pam Walton will be presented by the Sacramento Area Career Women's Network Sept. 18 at the Clarion Hotel.

Walton is the award winning film maker who created "Out in Suburbia." Some of the "stars" of "Out in Suburbia" will be at the Clarion to talk about how the documentary has changed their lives.

The evening will include dinner and both documentaries. This is an event for women, age 21 and over. For tickets and information call SACWN at 486-8985.

Men's Chorus Wants Members

The Sacramento Men's Chorus is gearing up for an exciting new season and is currently recruiting for singing and non-singing members.

The chorus performs a variety of music ranging from a classical choral repertoire to selections from musicals, and performs about three major concerts per year. The group also performs for fundraising activities, memorial services, senior citizen homes, and in many other venues.

1992 is the first year that anyone who wishes to be a part of the vital organization may join as a non-singing member. Men and women who love music and wish to be a part of a growing organization are encouraged to join.

The chorus requires a substantial support group to assist with the many facets of production that do not require singing.

Rehearsals for singing members begin Sunday, September 13 and continue on Sunday nights through June. The chorus consists of men who have varied singing experience and skills. The Men's Chorus encourages all men with a love for singing to join them this season for a year of musical excellence and the warmth of wonderful friendships.

For more information call Frank Lawler at 444-5213.

Entertainment for Half Price

The Lambda Letters Project will be selling "Entertainment '93 Books" to raise money for the letter writing campaign that targets gay/lesbian rights, AIDS and women's issues.

The books contain money saving coupons for local businesses, with out of town books also available.

Books are expected to be on sale Aug. 20 at the latest ISSUE office, 709 28th Street, Sacramento. For more information contact Lambda Letters at 965-6851.

SACOAR Needs Clinic Defenders

Sacramento Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue is looking for pro-choice women and men to help defend local clinics from an expected flood of Operation Rescue members Sept. 21.

The fanatic Operation Rescue "pro-life" activists are expected to target the 3 local clinics that provide low cost abortion.

Training for clinic defenders is scheduled throughout Aug. and Sept.

For information on the training sessions contact SACAOR at 763-7705.

MCC Celebrates Anniversaries

River City Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), has announced that the weekend of Aug. 21 will be a three day celebration recognizing the 21st anniversary of the church, and Rev. Elder Freda Smith's 20th year in the ministry.

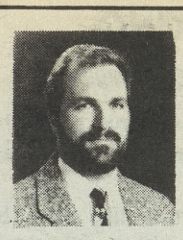
Rev. Elder Troy Perry, founder of MCC, will be honoring Rev. Smith at a banquet in the church's grand ballroom Saturday, Aug. 22.

Rev. Perry is also scheduled to conduct the worship services on Aug. 23 at 9 and 11 a.m.

For further information contact the church at 454-4762.

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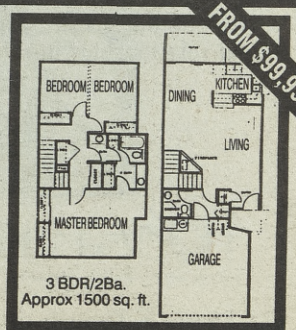
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PARKING

continued from page 1

would not have prevented the more recent "roof-walking" incident.

"It's not like he's been a good neighbor all along and new we're slapping him down," she said of Bradley. "They stonewalled us about putting up lights in the parking lot until a woman who had been in Faces was raped there. They had lights up the next day."

Banes is also skeptical of the bank's claims of concern for safety. Bradley has "no statistics" to support his claims of high crime at the bank, she contends. She also said that none of the three incidents Bradley cited were related to the ATM, and that there have been no incidents in the area since the Lavender Angels began patrolling more than a year ago.

"We have enough things going against us without our banks, the banks we put our money into, going against us too," she said.

While he regrets the inconvenience to his customers, Bradley maintains, "I am not a homophobe. I'm not even sure what that means."

Bradley also admits that closing the ATM after hours will force customers to seek out nearby ATMs, which Covino and Banes say will put them in exactly the kind of danger the bank manager says he is trying to eliminate. But, he said, once customers learn that the machine is closed, they won't stop there after hours anymore.

Bradley insists he regrets taking what he believes is a necessary action. The bank did not restrict access to its ATM and parking lot lightly, he said, noting the construction cost "close to $50,000."

Covino believes the bank's action will be counterproductive. "Banks have traditionally had a higher concern for neighborhood safety," she said. She notes that "for 70 years people have been accustomed to parking in empty lots downtown, and now it looks like Fort Interstate. It's bad for business. It's like walking past the OK Corral."

Covino is especially peeved at the bank's reluctance to discuss the matter. "We have not explored all the possibilities" the bank might take to ensure safety, she said. "These actions go beyond 'reasonable precautions.'"

Both Covino and Banes see the bank's action as an outdated overreaction. They say, and Bradley agrees, that only two other branches of First Interstate have take similar actions, and both of them are in East-Central Los Angeles. The bank said it has no plans to restrict other ATMs.

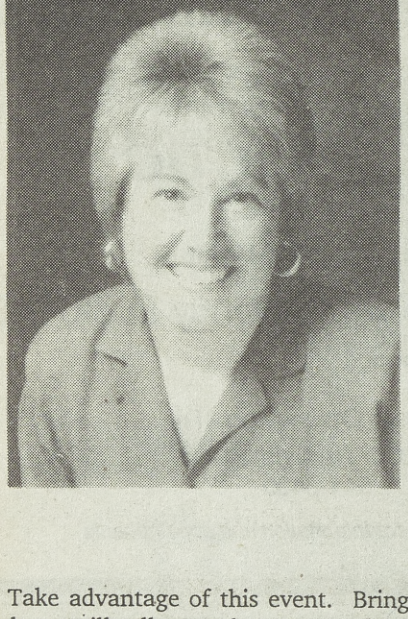
The three parties agreed to meet again, August 24.

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BILL UPDATE

continued from page 3

already been heard by the Appropriations Committee. Unexpected opposition included lengthy and graphic testimony presented by a woman, Denise Beaumont, who said her young daughter had been sexually molested by a group of lesbian satanists, who were students and faculty at U.C. Santa Cruz. An accompanying man seconded her claims about the existence of a lesbian satanist conspiracy, run by lesbians employed at all levels of law enforcement and by state and local social service agencies.

What some Capitol watchers have noticed is that this year the rhetoric of the "traditional values" contingent includes attacks on lesbians, in the war against gay and lesbian civil rights.

According to Laurie McBride of the LIFE Lobby, the use of lesbians as political ammunition means that the right wing has wised up to the fact that lesbians are homosexual, too, and by including lesbians in their attacks, they are able to broaden the scope of the enemy.

According to McBride, that means lesbians have arrived, politically. "The days of lesbians being second class citizens in the demonology of the right wing is over."

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BILL UPDATES

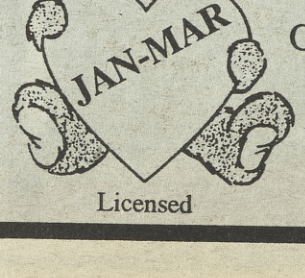
ASSEMBLY BILL 2525 (Brown) a needle exchange bill is on hold due to the loss of Assembly Member Bill Filante's vote. Filante (R-Marin) who last year was the loan Republican in his house to vote for AB101 was unexpectedly admitted recently for concer surgery. His prognosis is not good, and he is expected to be replaced on the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, by another member inclined to vote favorably on that bill.

ASSEMBLY BILL 3825 (Brown) is an omnibus civil rights bill which includes language protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination, and inserts language to be in compliance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. According to Laurie McBride, the bill's opponents are not aiming at the gay rights language contained in the bill, but at the some of the other provisions, including changes in credit and rental housing restrictions. It was defeated 5-6 by the Senate Appropriations Committee on August 10, but accrding to Willie Brown, will be back for reconsideration.

SENATE BILL 1714 (Marks) has undergone a number of substantial amendments, and may ultimately redefine the relationship between both local and state AIDS advisory groups and the state agencies administering AIDS programs. A bill to watch, it is waiting to be heard by the Assembly Ways and Means Committee.

ASSEMBLY BILL (Hayden) which would mandate multicultural sensitivity training in public schools to help in efforts to fight the increase in hate crimes, is still waiting to be heard in its policy committee.

Many bills have stalled due to the stagnation of the budget negotiations which have consumed the Capitol. Until the budget has been hammered out and approved (which could take weeks, at the rate things are going) legislative efforts supported by gays and lesbians have been put on semi-permanent "hold."



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getting OUTTA TOWN

Queer Boy Scouts Continues to be Hot Topic



RINK FOTO

John Woods speaks his mind about the Boy Scouts.

by **Miles Kerley**

Two hundred demonstrators, gathered outside Bank of America's San Francisco headquarters in July. But this rally, with its shouting, praying, whistle-blowing, and anthem-singing is only one of the myriad of issues surrounding the Boys Scouts of America.

In the California legislature, an Assembly Resolution was introduced by Assembly Member Ferguson that would protect the Scouts' ability to "determine standards of membership, and the qualifications for its scout masters," and to "maintain and strengthen traditional American and family values" The resolution has since died in committee.

Over the past 18 months, several large organizations, such as Bank of America, Wells Fargo Bank, Levi Strauss and the United Way have made moves to stop funds to the Scouts, as a result of the their discriminatory policy of neither allowing gay youths to be scouts, nor allowing gay men to become scout masters.

For each of the organizations and corporations, there has been a myriad of pressure from Traditional Values Coalition [TVC], American Family Association, including, Pat Robinson's 700 Club which recently spent a half hour show asking their viewers to send letters of support to the banks supporting the Scouts.

The issue was brought to life after a Los Angeles court ruled that the Boy Scouts of America could exclude Tim Curran, who was gay. Curran had been a Boy Scout for 10 years as a member of the Mt. Diablo troop as an Eagle Scout. He had applied to be a Scout Master.

At 17 he went to his high school prom with his boyfriend and the story was picked up by the Oakland Tribune. The Scouts rejected Mr. Curran's application, stating that he did not qualify to be a Scout Master, and that he could no longer be a Eagle Scout because he was homosexual. Mr. Curran sued and the case has gone on for ten years.

Last year, the a court in Los Angeles ruled that the Scouts had the right to determine the qualifications and set the standards for membership

Continued on page 14

Gay Rodeo Shakes San Francisco

by **Mike Kelly**

Despite the boycott and picketing by "Gays and Friends for Animal Rights," the Bay Area Chapter of the Golden State Gay Rodeo Association held their first regional rodeo in Mission Bay at China Basin in San Francisco.

The July 24 weekend event garnered crowds of vintage cowboys and cowgirls, mixed with novices, black leather types, preppies, and collegiate jocks, including some familiar Sacramento faces.

The crowd had lots of fun experiencing their country roots once again by dancing, competing, or simply cheering for their favorite events.

Rodeo has evolved to become one of this country's top spectator sports, with over 14 million fans attending annually, according to the Gay Rodeo officials. Gay rodeo started in 1975 in Reno, Nevada and flourished there for nine years before its books were seized by the federal government. In its last year the Reno rodeo assembled more than 12,000 spectators from over 14 countries and had the largest number of dance groups ever assembled at any rodeo.

Bay Area Chapter President, Jim Tennessen, wished good luck to all the contestants who came from among the 18

Continued on page 14



MIKE KELLY

A bull rider loses control at the rodeo in San Francisco.

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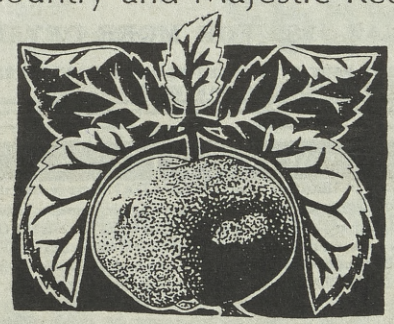
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HIV POSITIVE

LONG-TERM

continued from page 1

cisco City Clinic Cohort considered one of the most important HIV survival studies in the country, initially enrolled 6,704 homosexual and bisexual men between 1978 and 1980 in San Francisco and eventually led to development of the Hepatitis vaccine.

In the S.F. City Clinic Cohort, a healthy long-term positive subgroup participant was designated as an individual who had not been diagnosed with AIDS and has CD4 (T-helper) cell count above 500 after ten years with HIV infection. The researcher emphasized that the term "long-term survivor" is accurately used to describe many people with HIV exhibiting varying degrees of immune health and function.

"Healthy long-term positive provide encouraging evidence that some persons maintain immunologic health for very long periods of time despite HIV infection," stated Buchbinder.

Upon analysis of the cohort data, researcher determined that fewer than 1% of the study participants progressed to an AIDS diagnosis within two years of seroconversion. Within 5 years, 11% of the study volunteers had received an AIDS diagnosis, within 10 years more than half at 51%, and at 13 years 65% of the men in the study had been diagnosed with AIDS. "The encouraging message is that 30 to 40% of HIV-infected persons in our cohort have not developed AIDS 13 years after HIV seroconversion," Buchbinder emphasized.

Five men participating in the cohort study who documented living with HIV from 10 to 14 years while remaining completely healthy recently spoke in confidence to this reporter on their lives as survivors. Three of the men requested anonymity, voicing concerns regarding insurance and health coverage, as well as a desire to keep their antibody status a personal matter.

All the men shared a desire to let others know that they are surviving with HIV while remaining in good health for may years, as a way of offering hope and encouragement to others coping with HIV.

The men spoke of coming to terms with their own HIV status over the years and the importance of maintaining a positive attitude. "I always see the positive in things, and take life as a challenge and find the good in whatever happens no matter how horrible," stated Jeff (alias) a 10 year HIV survivor. Others found they coped best by not allowing AIDS to become the center of their very existence. "I really don't think about it much," stated Allen, 37, a 12 year HIV survivor. "I've always felt the odds are in my favor and somehow I would survive," he adds.

All the men shared a fighting attitude and determination to survive. "I decided a long time ago that HIV was something that I was not going to let affect me," stated Stan (alias) a 39 year-old 14 1/2 year long-term survivor. "I really don't believe that because you're HIV-positive that you have to die from AIDS," he emphasized. The men also share a unique perspective and appreciation. "I love every minute of life," adds Gordon Gross, 42, a 13 year HIV survivor.

"There is something going on in my body and the bodies of other healthy gay men who have been exposed for a very long time, that is keeping this disease at bay" stated Stephen Pfander, 42, a 12 year HIV survivor. Researchers don't know why some people with HIV stay healthy while others succumb to manifestations of HIV disease. "We either have co-factors that keep the disease away, or we have not been in touch with co-factors that cause the disease progression," pondered Pfander. "I'm probably healthy because of blind luck, heredity factors, the strain of HIV I became infected with, or any one of a number of other factors that researchers are trying to identify," Jeff adds.

The men offered encouraging words for others coping with HIV. "Hang in there. It's not easy. There are going to be rough moments, but there is hope, and it's a golden opportunity to look at your life and what is important to you," stated Jeff.

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The MENS Session is an educational program of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation

the latest NEWS BITS

Oregon Bigots Get on Ballot

Gay rights advocates gathered July 18 on the steps of the Oregon Capitol to rally against a ballot measure they say would legalize discrimination against gays and lesbians.

The rally came one day after the state Elections Division ruled that enough signatures had been collected by the right-wing Oregon Citizens Alliance to put Measure 9 on the November 3 ballot.

"Anybody who thought we might not have to fight this fight knows we now have to," said Ebie Briskin, a member of the Coalition for a Hate-Free Oregon, a Portland-based organization fighting the measure.

Measure 9 would forbid governments from encouraging or facilitating homosexuality, labeling gays and lesbians "abnormal and perverse."

Attack at Gay Pride Event

St. Louis' pride day festival ended in violence this year, after a "mob" of youths attacked festival participants as they were leaving the event. According to the Lesbian and Gay News-Telegraph, a group of youths were gathered in one section of Forest Park, where the June 28 pride festivities were being held. When the event was over, the youths erupted into a "near riot," said one festival attendee, seriously injuring several people and unleashing a volley of verbal harassment on others.

Reports of police response to the attacks were mixed. Only two officers responded to the melee, in which "hundreds of youths" participated, and initially "focused on getting the gays and lesbians out of the way" of the mob "with little politeness."

The Washington Blade

"Magic" to Quit Commission

Basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson said Sunday he will probably resign from the National Commission on AIDS because President Bush has hampered its efforts to fight the epidemic.

"I'm frustrated and I don't think I'll be on it too much longer," Reuters news service quoted Johnson as saying. He said Bush had repeatedly turned down the Commission's request for more funding, and he said the president needs to exercise greater personal leadership in the fight against AIDS.

"I am going to do my part, but I think that the higher source -- and that's the president -- can have a better effect than I can," he said.

When asked which presidential candidate he would endorse, Johnson said, "It definitely won't be the President."

The Washington Blade

Pruitt Tries for Military Chaplin

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches has submitted the name of the Rev. Dusty Pruitt for consideration as a military chaplain. Pruitt was dismissed from the Army in 1986 for "moral dereliction" because she is a lesbian, and is involved in a lawsuit against the government over her dismissal. "If you have ministerial skills," Pruitt said, "you are able to apply them across the spectrum. Ministry is not sexually-oriented...The application is consistent with the desire of my heart to be a chaplain and in the military."

Southern Voice

"Gay Parents Not Normal" - Bush

In an interview with the New York Times on June 25, President George Bush said that he "can't accept as normal lifestyle people of the same sex being parents. I'm very sorry. I don't accept that as normal." Bush said that is was all right for unmarried people to be parents, however, but added that he believes "in the traditional family values, and the best show that a kid has is to have a mother and a father, that will educate that child, that will care for that child."

Southern Voice

Petty Comes Out for Human Rights

When Gainesville's Gay Community held a Gay Pride picnic, the Ku Klux Klan showed up to protest as expected -- but so did some unexpected supporters.

Rock star Tom Petty and his wife Jane, both natives of Gainesville, said they made a spur-of-the-moment decision to visit the picnic and rally on June 28, according to the Gainesville Sun.

"I support all human rights," Petty said. "That's why I'm here."

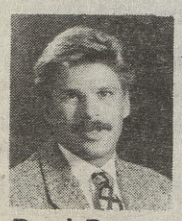
The Washington Blade

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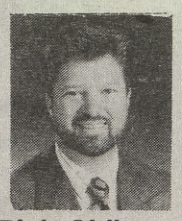
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August

15 saturday

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A Taste of Sacramento, an event featuring the food, entertainment and celebrities that make Sacramento "special." For info call 442-8575. **Aug. 15 & 16**



Monica Grant, comedian, songwriter at the Unitarian Church, 2425 Sierra Blvd. 8 p.m. For tickets and info call 486-8985.

The Unsinkable Molly Brown at the Davis Musical Theater, 2121 2nd Street in Davis. For tickets call 756-DMTC. **Aug. 15 - 30**

Children of the World Paint in a Single Language. Exhibit at the Crocker Art Museum. For info call 264-5423. **Aug. 15 - Nov. 1**

17 monday

SAGA IV Roller Skating Party 8:30 -.10:30p.m. King's Skate Country, Bradshaw & Hwy 50. $5 admission & skate rental. For info call 635-1535 or 455-0986.

Sam Harris in Cabaret. For tickets and info call 557-1999. **Aug. 17 - 23**

18 tuesday

Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays meeting at St. Marks United Methodist, 7:30 p.m. For info 665-1050.

Art and Psychosis at 7 p.m. at the Galeria Posada, 701 O Street. A lecture by Mexican psychiatrist Salvador Roquet. $5 admission. For info call 391-6418.

19 wednesday

"Richard III" at the Curran Theater in San Francisco. For tickets and info call 415) 956-4781. **Aug. 19 - Sept. 13**

BANG! Gay Business Alliance meeting. For info call 457-3269

20 thursday

In-Town Show and Roast, an event of the Ducal Court at Faces, 2000 K Street. 7 p.m. $2 cover.

21 friday

Metropolitan Community Church's 21st Anniversary Celebration kick-off concert. For tickets call 454-4762. **Aug. 21, 22, 23**

Out of Town Show, an event of the Ducal Court at The Townhouse, 1517 21st Street, 10 p.m. $2 cover. Hosted by Lola Lust.

Sacramento Women's Chorus 1st rehearsal of the season. All women welcome. For info 424-4411.

Jesse Wells reads from her book "After Shocks" at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street. 7 p.m.

Women's Support Group, for info call 454-0516.

California State Fair at Cal Expo. For info call 924-2000. **Aug. 21 - Sept. 7**



Mumbo Gumbo at Library Plaza Park, 5 - 7:30 p.m. Free and Open to the Public.

Surviving the Breakup of a Relationship presented by SLCC. 7 - 9 p.m. For info call 687-7282.

22 saturday

ACLU Annual Conference, focusing on "The Changing Struggle for Civil Rights in the 90s" at UC Davis. (415) 621-2493.

Sacramento Cheeks & Chaps Competition the Wreck Room, 10 p.m.

Rev. Freda Smith will be honored for 20 years in the MCC ministry by Rev. Troy Perry and interested community members. For info call 454-4762.

MONDAYS

Men's Coming Out Group at Lambda Center 5:30 -7 p.m. For info call 442-0185

Affirmation: United Methodists for lesbian & gay concerns meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m. St. Mark's United Methodist Church. For info call 489-2340.

Lesbian Gay Town Council meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in County Admin. Bldg, 7th & H St. For info 448-0422.

Women's Survivors Group of Sexual Abuse meets every other Monday from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. For info and location call 783-0579.

SAGA IV Roller Skating Parties 3rd Monday from 8:30 - 10:30 p.m. at King's Skate Country, Bradshaw & Hwy 50. $5 admission & skate rental. For info call 635-1535 or 455-0986.

TUESDAYS

ACT-UP Sacramento, meeting at Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. Call 863-3025 for info.

Heart to Heart a discussion group for men at the AIDS Foundation, 920 20th St, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. For info call 448-2437.

Sacramento Leather Association monthly meeting at the Wreck Room at 7 p.m. First Tuesday each month. For info call 737-0651

The Other Group, support group for heterosexual people with HIV, every 2nd and 4th Tuesday 6:30 p.m. For info call 447-5316.

Women HIV+ support group at Sacramento AIDS Foundation. 12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. For info call 448-2437.

Being Gay Today, 10 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian & gay programming from around the country & beyond.

THURSDAYS

Being Gay Today, 9 p.m. on cable 18. An hour of lesbian & gay programming from around the country & beyond.

Being Alive Living Room HIV+ support group from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Lambda Center. Call 442-0185 for info.

Lesbian Support Group for Partners of Incest/Molest Survivors. 1st & 3rd Thursdays from 7 p.m. at 1701 H Street. For info call 722-4570.

FRIDAYS

Cafe' Lambda gay/lesbian coffee house at the Lambda Center coffees, desserts entertainment from 8p.m.- midnight. For info 442-0185.

Country Western Dance (lessons too!) at 7:30 p.m. Activity center of River City MCC, 34th & Bdwy. For info call 454-4726.

Women's Support Group meets every other Friday 2 -4 p.m. For info 454-0516.

SATURDAYS

Gay Men's/Lesbian Running Group, all levels welcome. For more info call 387-8275 or 444-2835.

SUNDAYS

Softball at the park at C and 21st Street park. Games at noon and 2 p.m. Every one welcome.

Gay Families, a support group for lesbians & gay men with children and those considering parenthood, the 4th Sunday of each month. For info call 387-8862.

River City Metropolitan Community Church; 7 a.m. communion, 9, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. worship service. For more info call 454-4762.

Christian Community Fellowship meets in the community room at the Wreck Room 2 p.m. Call 731-7620.

Tea Dance at FACES 3 - 7 p.m., barbecue at 5 p.m., country/western dancing begins at 7 p.m.

September

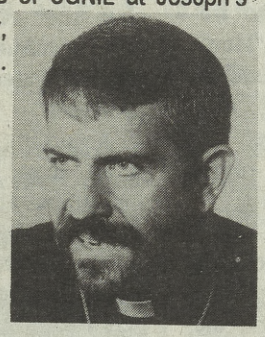


Duke and Duchess Ball at Joseph's Town and Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd. Door 7 p.m., Ball 8 p.m.

Sacramento Men's Chorus, new member recruitment party. For info call 485-7960.

23 sunday

Victory Brunch, for the new Duke and Duchess of CGNIE at Joseph's Town and Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd. $10. 11 a.m.



Rev. Troy Perry, MCC founder , will be leading the 9 & 11a.m. services at RCMCC. For info call 454-4762.

24 monday



Day Hike to Dardanelles Lake with Outdoor Adventures. The hike goes from meadow a glacial granite tree-lined lake. Call 421-6209 for details.

Sacramento County Funding Cut Hearings, at 1:30 p.m. AIDS Funding cuts are the target of the Sacramento Board of Supervisors. For details call 442- 0185. **Aug. 24 & 25**

Victory Show at Faces, 2000 K St 4 p.m.

25 tuesday

Twin Spirit Veteran's Association, meeting at MCC, 7:30 p.m. For more info call 446-6409 or 383-0940.

26 wednesday



The Sierra String Quartet, an all Beethoven program, UC Davis Main Theater, 8 p.m. For tickets and info call 752-1915.

27 thursday

SALTIMBANCO

Cirque du Soleil presents **Saltimbanco** in San Jose at 2nd & San Fernando Streets. For tickets and info call 408) 279-6314. **Aug. 27 - Sept. 6**

29 saturday



Youth Picnic, McKinley Park 3-9 p.m. Sponsored by the Lambda Center, RCDC & Delta Lambda Phi -Davis. Call 442-0185 for details.

Underwear Party Wreck Room, 10 p.m.

30 sunday

Erotic Art Show, at The Moment of Touch, 2230 J Street, featuring the works of Kim Wallace and Robert Jean-ray. **Aug. 30 - Sept. 27**

1 tuesday

The Secret Garden presented by Music Circus. For tickets or info call 557-1999. **Sept. 1 - 6**

2 wednesday

Reunion Night at FACES. The gang from Take 2, Blue Moon and Anna Marie's come out for one HOT ladies night at 2000 K Street.

3 thursday

They Might Be Giants at the Crest Theater. September 3 - 7

Rainbow Festival -- weekend of entertainment, food and fun in the heart of Lavender Heights. 20th and K Streets. **Sept. 3-7**





The Rainbow Festival Kick-Off show with Stacey and Jo and a cast of thousands. at FACES, 2000 K Street.

4 friday

Rainbow Festival's first RAVE party. In the tent!!!

Buddy Tokes and Hiro at Library Plaza Park, 5 - 7:30 p.m. Free and Open to the Public.

Rumors a comedy by Neil Simon at the Chatauqua Theater. For info call 489- PLAY. **Sept. 4 - Oct. 11**

5 saturday

Kim Simms headline performer for the Rainbow Festival.



The Renaissance Pleasure Faire, in Novato. The 26th anniversary of the event that brings Elizabethan England to life. For info call (800) 52-FAIRE. **Sept. 5 - Oct. 11**

6 sunday

Rainbow Festival Street Fair, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on 20th Street at K. For info on booth rental call 441-3973.



Lois Bromfield comedian in the Rainbow Festival tent, 9 p.m.

Chalk It Up Sacramento in front of Gallery Posada, 7th and O Streets. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. Every one is welcome to come chalk it up in the name of art. **Sept. 6, 7, 8**

9 wednesday

Joan Armatrading, Berkeley Community Theater.



11 friday

Shirley Valentine The Show Below, 22nd & L Streets. Call 446-2787 for info and tickets.



Best of Broadway the Hiram Johnson Auditorium, 65th St. and 14th Ave. For tickets call 920-1121 **Sept. 11 - 26**

12 saturday

"Behind the Blue Door" a reception for artist Gay Leonard, at the Archival Framing Gallery, 1729 L Street. 444-9624.



"Against the Grain" an uncensored work of black and whites by Sherry Mark at the latest ISSUE, 709 28th Street. Reception is from 7 - 9 p.m. **Sept. 1 - 30**



Sacramento Symphony season opening concert with Titaina Troyanos. Tickets by phone, 649-0200.

13 sunday

Alan Jackson at Cal Expo Amphitheater, 7 p.m. Call 923-BASS for tickets.



14 monday

Nutrition and Your Health presentation at the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. 7 - 9 p.m. For info, call 448-2437.

16 wednesday

BANG! Business Alliance of Networking Gays meeting. For info call 457-3269

17 thursday



Reno Air Races at Stead Airport, Reno. Call 923-2277 for tickets.

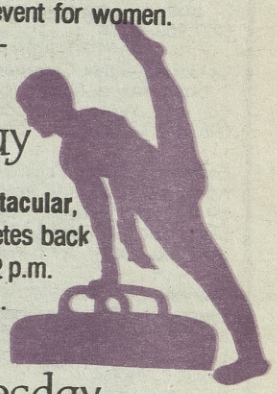
18 friday

PopeAlopes and Cake at Library Plaza Park, 5 - 7:30 p.m. Free and Open to the Public.



"Mark Twain Tonight" at the Community Center Theater, 14th & L Streets. For info 264-5181.

SACWN presents creator of "Out in America" previewing her latest work "Gay Youth," at the Clarion Hotel in Sacramento. An event for women. For info call 486-8985.



20 sunday

Gymnastics Spectacular, featuring the athletes back from Barcelona. 2 p.m. at the Arco Arena. Call 923-BASS

23 wednesday

The Moody Blues, at the Concord Pavilion.

25 friday

Little Charlie & The Nightcats at Library Plaza Park, 5-7:30 p.m. Free Open to Public.



UC Davis Presents **Chinese Magic Revue** Some of the acts include sword swallowing, human pyramids, magic and juggling. For info call 757-3199.

BOYSCOUTS

continued from page 9

within its organization. Currently, Mr. Curran is appealing the court's decision with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union.

One group that is extremely outspoken in its condemnation of the Scouts is Queer Scouts [QS], an off-shoot of Queer Nation. Queer Scouts is a group of gay men who were once scouts. QS's primary focus is to fight the homophobia of the Boy Scouts and has called for a nation-wide boycott of United Way, excluding United Way of the Bay Area.

"The overall belief held by Queer Scouts is that the Boy Scouts is unredeemable as an organization." "The Boy Scouts tout an 82-year history of tradition..." said John Woods, member of QS, "a history of racism and bigotry. For a majority of those years, the Scouts remained segregated. White scouts did not mix with Black scouts. It was not until August of last year that the Scouts in southern states finally stopped saluting a confederate flag during their ceremonies. This came as a result of an 18 year old Scout who wrote to the corporate office in Dallas, asking that the Scouts stop saluting the Confederate flag because it represented a union that allowed slavery, thus would be discriminatory/derogatory towards blacks. Scouts has a history that discriminates against Blacks, women and anyone who believes in other deities or questions God."

The majority of money that supported the Boy Scouts in the past came from United Way.

"What triggered the United Way of the Bay Area to pull funding from the Scouts was the resolution of the Tim Curran case in L.A. where the Court records indicate clearly that the Boy Scouts of America policies do exclude gays," said John Stafford, Vice-President for Public Affairs for the United Way of the Bay Area.

United Way of Sacramento has indicated it will continue fund the Scouts.

RODEO

continued from page 9

regional gay rodeo associations "all over the United States and all walks of life to compete in Gay Rodeo and to give us a show not soon to be forgotten."

"Rough Stock events" included wild steer riding, chute dogging, bareback bronc riding, and bull riding. "Horse events" were the pole bending, barrel racing, and flag race. "Roping events" were calf roping on foot, team roping and breakaway calf roping.

Among the comical "Camp Events" were the "Wild Drag Race," "Steer Decorating," and "Goat Dressing!" As the old-timers say, "prerequisites for participation are a willingness to eat dirt and the ability to hold your own with an ornery cow, steer or goat."

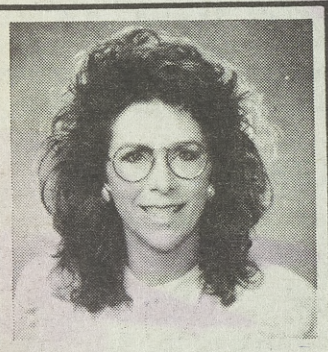
Rodeo director, Michael Callery, said he hoped the fans would "go away with a nice feeling about us, our event, and about the funds you have helped us raise."

Although this first Bay Area Rodeo was not a financial success according to one official, the events brought in large revenues to country/western affiliated businesses and sponsors.

According to the program, more than $25,000 was "up for grabs at the 1st Annual Bay Area Regional Rodeo, with over $1,000,000 distributed during the 1992 International Gay Rodeo Association circuit." The Grand Marshall for this regional rodeo was San Francisco Supervisor Carole Migden.

This current circuit began in Denver on the July 4 weekend, went through Wichita and Minneapolis, and is now continuing in Albuquerque on Sept. 4, San Diego on Sept. 25, Washington D.C. on Oct. 2, Phoenix (for International Finals) on Oct. 23, and Dallas on Nov. 13.

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CDs from McLachlan, Deee-Lite and Others

by **Bill Peterson**

Sarah McLachlan- Solace: If you missed her excellent show (Aug. 9) at Melarkey's, let me fill you in -- McLachlan's music is akin to Sinead



Sarah McLachlan.

O'Connor's, but without the bitter after-taste.

With a voice that is pure and strong, and songs that are too, this her second album is highlighted by the concise and stirring "Lost" and "The Path of Thorns" both, introspective without being morose, McLachlans's work, both live and on record is genuine and provocative. **$13.00**

The B-52's- Good Stuff: Cindy leaves, Fred sings (on 2 songs) and Kate sings along with a bobolink and a green-tailed towhee. Yes, say hello again to those zany B-52's, back again, after the success of their "Cosmic Thing" album a couple years back.

With a phone directory on the box, listing several agencies the B's support, (including 6 AIDS groups, Greenpeace, and the Sierra Club), and some eco-friendly songs that never forget how to have fun, they're politically correct, and ready to party! While there's nothing as exhilarating as "Love Shack" or "Roam," the band still serves up lotsa groove and fun. **$9.99**

Deee-Lite - Infinity Within: This album has so much going for it -- a tres cool album cover, some wacky song titles ("I Had a Dream I Was Falling Through a Hole in the Ozone Layer") and that deee-liteful bass-heavy 70's funk groove. Unfortunately, that's where the fun stops -- other than a couple of thumping



Deee-Lite.

dance romps such as "Runaway" and two decent slow-tempo cuts, "I Won't Give Up," has a splendid summer pool side hook, but is spoiled by the trite, repetitive lyrics- "let's do it again, let's do it again, baby," we are left with a few public service announcements ("Vote Baby Vote") and disposable novelties such as "Pussycat Meow." **$6.99**

Elton John- The One: After twenty-some odd years and albums, one would think that Elton and Bernie Taupin could write some decent songs in their sleep. Judging by most of this album, they certainly can! There are three high quality tunes; "Simple Life," "The One" and the poignant "The Last Song," a few hit-oriented re-treads; "Whitewash County" that sounds so much like last year's hit "Club at the End of the Street" with the remainder being only average. With the success of the "Two Rooms" tribute, it seems Elton's coasting on autopilot this time. **$8.99**

Babyford-BFORD 9: Rave music that sounds like it should be the soundtrack to BATMAN RETURNS. "Fetish" features ominous distorted voices and quacking, and "In Your Blood," sounds like the Penguin is partying in the depths of the sewer. The only divergence from the insistent subterranean thumping is "20, Park Drive" which can best be described as techno-Dylan in an opium den. **$7.99**



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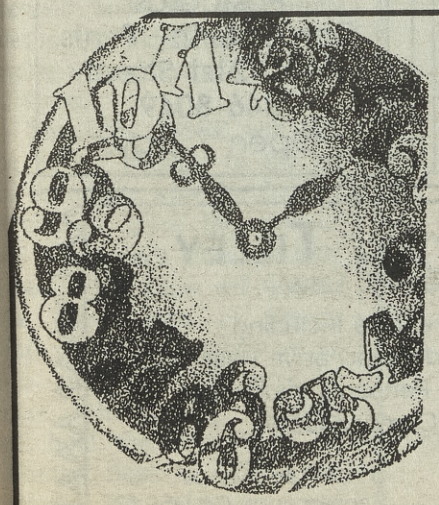


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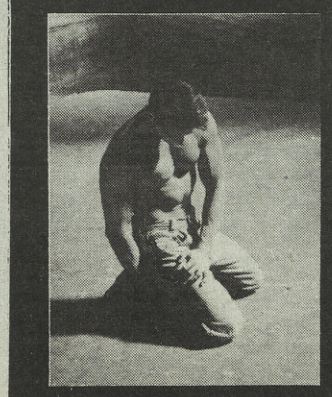
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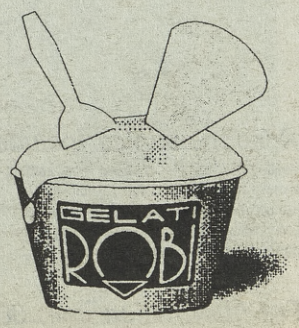
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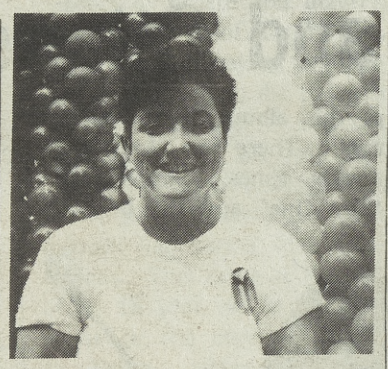
street WHYS

by **Karen Jay**

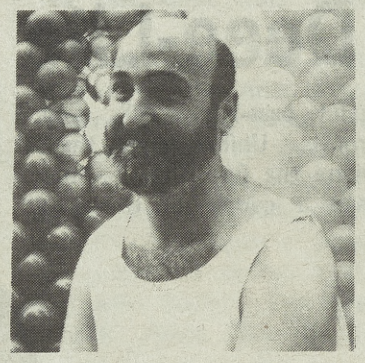
What is the best thing about being single?



Valerie Retallack
"The best thing about being single for me is my time is my own. I don't have the stress and heartaches of break-ups and stuff like that."



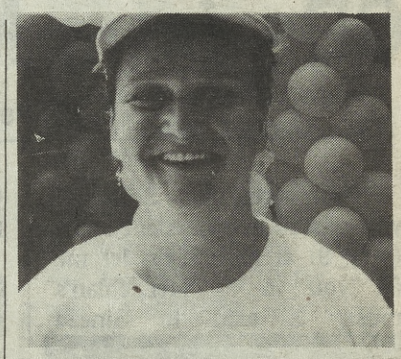
Melanie Rice
"The best thing about being single is I can go out and do whatever I want and not get yelled at when I get home."



Jeff Herre
"The best thing about being single is that you can go wherever you want to go, do whatever you want and look at whomever you want whenever you want to look at them. It makes the whole world wide open to you and at your disposal."



Steven Hansen
"The best thing about being single is you don't have to worry about getting in trouble if you're looking, it's more fun and you don't have to worry about hurting anyone's feelings."



Jo Tierney
"The best thing about being single is I can answer all the ads for "Women seeking Women," and not get in trouble because it shows up on my phone bill but there's nobody to check it."



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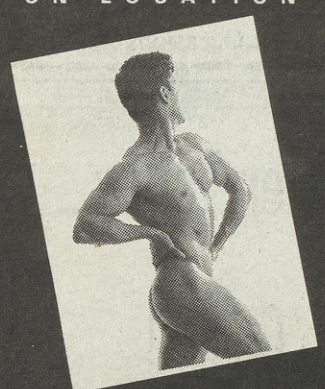
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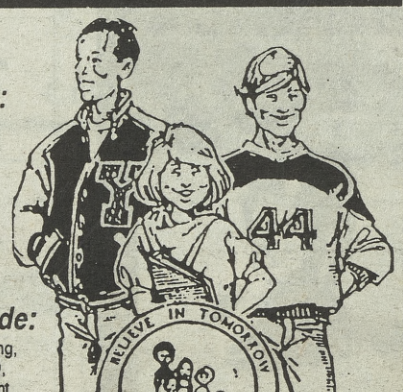
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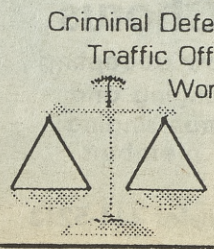
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that GALLERY GUIDE!

Fall Exhibition Season Opens in Local Galleries

by **D. Oldham**

September is traditionally the opening month for the gallery exhibition season, and Sacramento galleries are celebrating by taking art in a new direction.

The Judith Weintraub Gallery, with a reputation for being this area's finest abstract gallery, sets the pace for the new season with an exhibition of large figurative works by Brenda Louie. These charcoal drawings are some of the best work this gallery has shown. The artist has a command of this sometimes difficult medium and presents a very strong exhibition. Plan on spending plenty of time viewing this show; it is well worth a good, long look. The exhibition will be up through September with a reception on Friday, Sept. 11. Check the gallery listing for times.

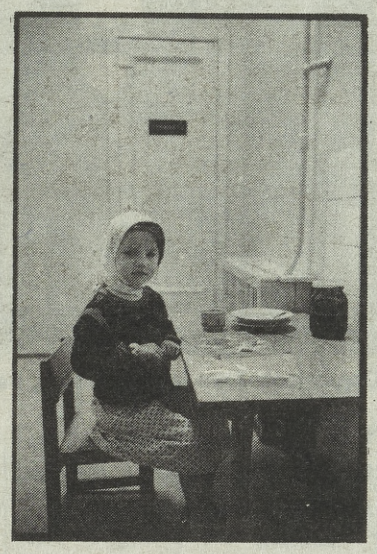
Photography is making a long-awaited resurgence in the Sacramento area, with several local galleries exhibiting photos in their opening shows. Gallery W will be presenting its first photography exhibit, featuring the haunting images of photojournalist Ken Bisio. Bisio takes a sympathetic look at Russian orphans and their surroundings. Also showing black and white photography is the Michael Himovitz Gallery. "Boys and Their Bikes" will be one of the opening exhibits at this downtown favorite and will include a photo of a downtown eccentric and his wonderfully decorated bicycle which he walks around Sutter's Fort and L Street.

The latest ISSUE will also be paying homage to the art of the photo with the first art exhibit to grace the walls of the newspaper's office on 28th Street. The show will feature the photographs of Sherry Mark in her first exhibition in this medium. All three of these photography exhibits will hold their receptions on Saturday, Sept. 12. Check the listings for addresses and times.

Another fun September event is Galeria Posada's "Chalk It Up to Sacramento," which takes place during Labor Day weekend (September 5-7) and features sidewalk "painting" done with chalk pastels by local artists. The event also included vendors and great music. Local businesses have sponsored the sidewalk squares and it is a chance to see some of Sacramento's well-known artists at work. There will be a free community square available for anyone who would like to try their hand at creating their own "concrete masterpiece." The show is a great stop before or after the Rainbow Festival.

The work should remain on the sidewalk for at least two weeks, weather permitting, so make this a destination for an after work stroll with your sweetheart.

Opening month is an opportunity to get a taste of the local art community, so take time out to see the fine exhibitions Sacramento's galleries have to offer.



Photography by Ken Besio, at Gallery W through September.

The Jennifer Pauls Gallery, 1825 Q Street, is changing its name to The Dean Moniz Gallery. The gallery will continue to show the artists that have made it a focal point for figurative art in Sacramento.

The gallery was established in 1970 and named after the founder's children, Jennifer and Paul. Dean Moniz has been with the gallery since 1986 and has been the sole owner/director since 1990.

The name change will help clarify the gallery's identity as well as giving recognition to the gallery's owner and director, Dean Moniz. The gallery will present its first exhibition under the new name in September, featuring the work of sculptor Joe Mariscal with an opening reception on Saturday, September 12 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The gallery address and telephone number, 448-4039, will remain the same.

Gallery Listing

Archival Framing: 1729 L Street, (916)444-9624. "Behind the Blue Door," work by Gay Leonard. Reception Saturday, September 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Michael Himovitz Gallery: 1020 10th Street, (916)448-8723. "Boys and Their Bikes," photography by Don Satterlee. Reception Saturday, September 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

The Dean Moniz Gallery (formerly Jennifer Pauls): 1825 Q Street, (916)4484039. Joe Mariscal and Gary Viviano. Reception Saturday, September 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The latest ISSUE: 709 28th Street, (916)448-8504. "Against the Grain," Photography by Sherry Mark. Reception Saturday, September 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

The Judith Weintraub Gallery: 1723 J Street, (916)442-3360. Drawings by Brenda Louie. Reception Friday, September 11, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Galeria Posada: 704 O Street (near 7th). "Chalk It Up to Sacramento" sidewalk painting festival. Labor Day weekend, September 5-7.

Gallery W: 901 W Street, (916)444-5125. Photography by Ken Bisio. Reception Friday, August 28, 6:00-9:00 p.m. Special event: Saturday, September 12, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

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Artists sponsored by local businesses will be creating concrete masterpieces with pastel chalk on the sidewalks surrounding Galeria Posada. The public is invited to "Chalk-It-Up" in a community square. So, bring your family and friends to enjoy:

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THE LATEST ISSUE

Northern California Leather Titles Awarded

by **D. Oldham**

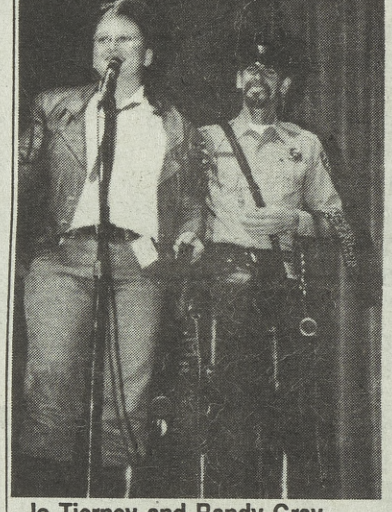
On Saturday August 1, Sacramento held the first Mr. and Ms. Northern California Leather Contest and proved that yes, we can support another leather title.

As the crowd began to arrive and the Tuesday Club began to carry that unmistakable smell of warm leather, the four contestants prepared for the contest after the day of pre-judging.

The crowd was a constant parade of men and women in leather, in uniforms, and some in not much of anything. The only traditional pageant-type material was Vanna Woolsey What, wearing a stunning purple leather dress and matching pumps. Unlike most Miss America contestants, Vanna looked great and could even walk in the shoes!

After many old friends and some new ones said hello, the lights dimmed and the crowd of about 100 moved into the theater for a look at the contestants as the competition began.

There were two competitors for each title and each participant was required to give a speech, and answer a question.



Jo Tierney and Randy Gray prepare to sash the winners.



Contestants from left: Kris Cox, Paul Maionchi, Donna Shrout and Wes Patterson.

The men also modeled revealing wear and the women performed a fantasy segment.

The flag was presented and the National Anthem sung by a very talented Lee Scarborough, who also provided gifted vocal entertainment between pageant segments.

Comedienne Shan Carr had the entire audience screaming with laughter. Don't miss her act when Greytier Presents brings her back to town later this month.

Competing for the men's title were Sacramentan Wes Patterson and San Jose resident Paul Maionchi. Both seemed at ease and were very articulate.

Patterson pleased the crowd with his response to the question, "What is your favorite piece of leather?" by answering, "Leather restraints, they give someone else more control than I would give." Wes seemed to enjoy the experience of being on stage and delivered an inspiring speech.

Maionchi caught the audience's attention in revealing wear and it seemed the judges would have a tough choice between the two.

The women, Donna Shrout and Kris Cox also answered questions and gave speeches, but Donna seemed a little more poised on stage. Her fantasy, "Career Woman's Revenge" was a big hit with the audience. She seemed in command on stage, but it could have been the uniform.

While the judges made their decision a group fantasy was performed by Bill Gooch, Calvin Lindberg, and Jana to the song "Fire and Ice."

The decision took a long time but the contest ran smoothly with Shan Carr entertaining the audience during the final tally. Wes Patterson won the Mr. Northern California Leather title and Donna Shrout took the Ms. Northern California Leather title.

Each will represent the leather community in fundraisers and will participate in the Internation Mr. & Ms. Leater Contests in the next year.

Donna Shrout best summed up the feelings of may of the contestants and the crowd with her response in the question segment. "Dignity is presenting your best, at all times." I think both winners will.

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OFF THE EDGE

Party Survival Rule Number One - Gather Bail

by **Stacy Selmants**

As every harried hostess knows, at parties we observe a delicate balance between hilarity and heinous misbehavior. And while many will agree that it's not REALLY a good party unless the police arrive and frisk a few people, the moment when you hear your co-host mumble, "Honey, hand me the stun gun, will you?" -- may be the first clue that your party MAY have veered out of control.

One of the first lessons learned when you are raised to Marry Well, is the gentle art of hosting parties. My party resume includes hosting: wine tasting parties in graveyards (those wacky teen years!); wild bacchanals at Camp Gonzo with 300 of our closest friends, featuring slippery games of Lingerie Twister (those wacky college years!); the infamous "Come As Your Favorite Dead Person" Halloween masquerade bash (those wacky heterosexual years!), and of course, the semi-annual human sacrifice/BBQ during the summer solstice (those wacky cannibal years!).

Through the years, these events have given me a sort of... INTERESTING reputation as a hostess, and have guaranteed an enthusiastic (if somewhat apprehensive) crowd at most gatherings. The experience has also enabled me to develop a loosely assembled list of sure fire party host suggestions, which as a public service, (and part of my agreement with the parole officer) we will share with you.

OFF THE EDGE
PARTY SURVIVAL NOTES

1. Round up plenty of bail money for everyone. While you may be the captain of your ship, party-wise, it is also true that some of your guests will act like drunken, horny sailors on shore leave. As a host, you will have to define the legal limits of acceptable behavior for your guests. To ensure maximum gossip, and minimum jail time, we suggest one rule. No felonies.

2. Beware of the neighbors. Depending upon the volume, and the feasibility of digging a moat, your neighbors probably will have to be considered. You



have three basic choices: warning them, inviting them or killing them. Since killing them unfortunately breaches our "no felonies" rule, we suggest giving them either ample warning or an invitation.

We have experienced both ends of the friendly neighbor spectrum--from the breezy, outgoing people currently living in the dorm-like quartet of units next door, to Ken-Bob, the closet fairy neighbor who used to use guerilla tactics to leave cat poop on our porch. Ken-Bob would begin screaming for police intervention usually about 8 p.m., no matter what our volume level. We began having parties just to spite him: "The First Annual Annoy the Neighbor Party"; "Annoy the Neighbor Party, The Sequel"; "Beyond the Valley of the Annoy the Neighbor" Party. (HINT: "Annoy the Neighbor" parties are best scheduled to start around Happy Hour. It's amazing how much noise you can legally make, as long as it's before 10 p.m.!)

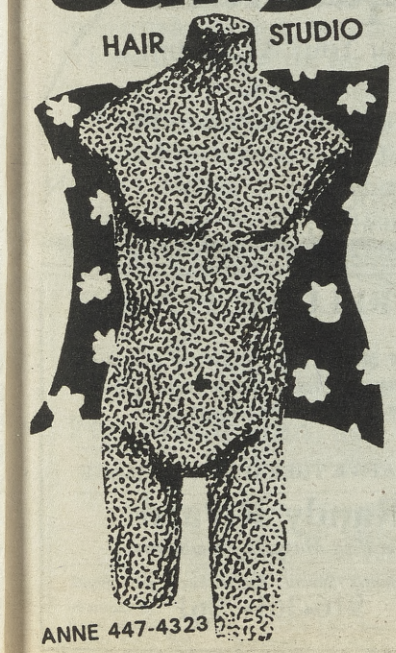
3) Make sure no one knows more than half of the other party guests. This keeps the party moving (as well as guessing, because we aways have a mixture of straight and gay guests.) Not having quite enough chairs is a cheap, yet easy way to keep the flow of traffic even, and encourages lap sitting.

Another advantage of mixing people of different orientations together is that it provides some cruel entertainment. Occasionally a real crowd will form, as some of the guests notice that a clueless yet sincere straight man is working up a real sweat trying to bed an alluring lesbian friend. And, another important benefit of the mixed crowd approach is that it allows the hostess to deal with guests in shifts. The gay folks tend to arrive and leave early; the straight folks (at least without babysitters) arrive late and have to be chased out the door, much like a residential version of "Last Call."

4. And finally, those of us in the "Just Say Maybe Club" have a motto: Never let a guest drive to excess. So what if one of your guest's bodily fluids are 76 percent tequila? We don't care. He'll pay his penance when he sings to a porcelain friend in the morning. Just don't let him get behind the wheel. As an added benefit, we've found that group sleepovers also create a nice sense of continuity; You can all exchange gossip about the people who went home early.

So follow these guidelines, and you will be the hit of the summer. There you'll be, awash in a sea of vaguely familiar faces, as you mutter the cry of the Stressed Hostess, "Who Invited All These Tacky People?"

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FAMILY

continued from page 5

Formed in response to the Mayor Anne Rudin's recent announcement regarding a domestic partnership, the SFDTF is now collecting information from many cities and private companies.

With registration a reality, the employees in such negotiations are in a stronger position at the bargaining table. The primary thrust of the Task Force is to collect and disseminate information to churches, senior groups, minority organizations and other affected groups.

Speakers are available to address groups who are interested. For more information about the SFDTF contact Co-chair Michael Boyd at 448-6112.

OBITUARIES

Chuck Novak

Chuck J. Novak, 47, an original social worker and former client services coordinator for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, died of an AIDS related illness in July.

Mr. Novak became active with the AIDS Foundation in 1984, a year after it was founded, as a volunteer in its Hand-to-Hand Project, which provides support to patients. After working as a social worker for the foundation, he was named client services coordinator in 1986 and helped establish resources and referral services for AIDS patients.

The licensed social worker left the foundation in 1989, and then served as an associate director of the Visiting Nurse Association in Sacramento. He was forced to stop working about a year ago due to illness.

Born and raised in Pittsburgh, Mr. Novak graduated form Fresno State College and earned a master's degree in social work form DePaul University in Chicago.

Mr. Novak is survived by his partner, Carl McCollum of Sacramento; children, Aaron of Stockton, and Ty and Amber, both of Lodi; parents, Charles and Estelle Novak of Port St. Lucie, Fla.; and a brother, Gene of Yoncalla, Ore.

The family request that any remembrances be made to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation Hand-to-Hand Project, 920 20th St., second floor, Sacramento 95814.

Spencer Fields

Services for Spencer Clark Fields, a research manager for the state Employment Development Department and a spokesman for the Catholic gay community in Sacramento, were held in July at St. Francis Church.

His involvement in the Catholic gay community included serving as a spokesman on local television and radio programs, representing the Catholic Diocese of Sacramento before the state Legislature and holding office in the Regional Administrative Body of Dignity, a national organization for gay Catholics.

Born in Napa, Mr. Fields was raised in Stockton and graduated form California State University, Hayward.

Mr. Fields is survived by his companion of 16 years, Jerry Kellenberger; son, Jeremy of Castro Valley; mother, Gloria Fields of Stockton; sisters, Angel Raposa of Livermore, and Gloria Kelley and Mary Fields, both of Sacramento; and brothers George of Long Beach, John and Paul of Stockton, and David of San Francisco.

The family request that any remembrances be made to the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

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RUMOR HAS IT

Summer is upon us with the hottest of hot weather, and hot gossip as well!

Mike Kelly finally found marriage material when he met **Mike Overdorf**, who came to Sacramento on his 31st birthday just to see **Mike**. Rumor has it the two are already cohabitating.

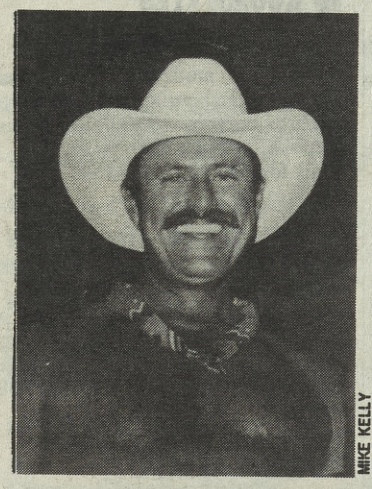
Martin Machado, owner of **Films for Days**, is moving to the Russian River. **Martin**, who says his new home is within stumbling distance of **Molly Brown's**, plans a weekly commute to Sacramento to maintain his business.

D. Oldham, that gallery gal, is celebrating her birthday this month. The celebration continues into September with her 4th anniversary with lover **Sheri**. Rumors that D. married Sheri only to get her hands on Sheri's famous **Barbie** shoe collection are entirely false!

The **Wreck Room's** past year of hard work is about to pay off in the form of a fabulous bare chest calendar to benefit **Hope House**. Contests to pick the models have been accompanied by fundraisers for many months. At the final event to select the cover man, Sacramento's hot **Phillipe Gerrard**, $750 was raised in a 50/50 raffle. Winner **Calvin Lindberg** kept only $20 for beer and donated back the rest of his winnings. If everything goes as planned, the calendar will be available at the **Rainbow Festival**, with the gorgeous models themselves handling sales.

Faces, gay Sacramento's favorite dance bar, celebrates its seventh anniversary in August. All couples now celebrating anniversaries of their own due to liaisons begun at the bar say hooray!

Speaking of **Faces**, bartender and **Rainbow Festival** organizer **Richard Boriolo**, is celebrating his 33rd birthday. To help him



MIKE KELLY

Phillipe Gerrard is the Cover Man for the 1993 Calendar.

celebrate, ask him to do his famous impersonation of a frog eating a fly. The man is truly multi-talented!

Birthday greetings to mail carrier **Linda Queensley**. Old age (or is it many years of marriage?) have taken their toll on **Linda's** knees, but otherwise she wears her age well!

Also celebrating late summer birthdays are the exotic, erotic **Muriel L., the latest ISSUE** publisher **Kate Moore** and her main squeeze **Sara Myers**.

Five candidates are contending for the title of **Duke and Duchess** at the upcoming August 22 **Ducal Ball** at **Joseph's. Grace Jones, Shondra,** and **Summer Storm** are vying for the Duchess tiara while **J.P.** and **Chuck** "Duke" it out for crown.

Many thanks to **Steve Pierce** who pointed out to **Sacramento News & Review** columnist **Amanda** that Sacramento has more than one gay paper. Who is this **Amanda** anyway? Feel free to send us your theories.

Congratulations to **Kelly B.** on the purchase of her big, butch, American-made pick up truck. Thank goodness those of us who have spent years wondering, "Is she butch or is she femme?" must wonder no more!

The **Moment of Touch** has announced that they will soon begin renting erotic videos with an interesting collection of titles geared toward women. Also, the store is holding an erotic art show from August 30 through September 27. Stop in and check it out!

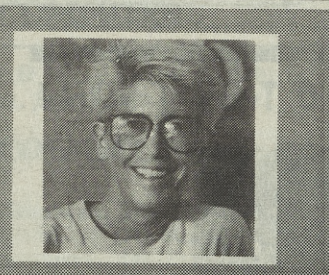
Both the **Sacramento Men's Chorus** and **Womens Chorus** are recruiting new members for their upcoming seasons. For those who enjoy music but can't carry a tune in a basket, the **Men's Chorus** is seeking non-singing members to help with support. Of course, singers are needed as well.

For all of you who have called to ask, yes it is true that Off the Edge's **Stacy Selmants** has held on to her new job for three weeks now. **Stacy** is employed, at last, at **California Association of AIDS Agencies** along with community members **Donna Yutzy, Geni Cowen,** and **Kurt Fowler.**

The **Rainbow Festival,** September 2 - 7 promises to be Sacramento's last summer hurrah, and is not to be missed. Stop by and see us at our booth.

Until then, here's hoping for cooler weather, and ever-hotter news!

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